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*Plague in Manila.*

MANILA, P. I., *April 13, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to hereby report that 12 cases of plague, with 7 deaths, occurred in Manila during the week ended April 7, 1900. During the same period 1 case of smallpox was reported.

Respectfully, J. C. PERRY,
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine Hospital Service.*

*Plague in Hongkong and Sydney.*

MANILA, P. I., *April 14, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to hereby inform you that plague has commenced to increase in Hongkong after a period of two weeks without a case. The report for the two weeks ended April 7, 1900, shows 10 cases and 10 deaths.

Bills of health from Sydney, New South Wales, dated March 24, 1900, report 32 cases and 10 deaths from plague in that city. The disease has appeared in several parts of the town, and a number of Europeans have been attacked.

Respectfully, J. C. PERRY,
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

PORTO RICO.

*Reports from Ponce.*

PONCE, P. R., *April 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the regular quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended April 28, 1900. Also a summary of the work done at this station during the month of April, 1900, and monthly report of immigrants inspected at this port during April, 1900.

The mortality is more than double that of the same period of last year. I believe this to be due to a combination of several causes, as the very large number of influenza cases, intestinal diseases caused by insufficient and improper food, but more especially by bad drinking water, during the dry season just passed. A great many sick people come from the surrounding country for treatment and charity; many of these dying, has swelled this list.

Nothing of interest has occurred in shipping circles.

Respectfully, W. W. KING,
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

[Inclosure.]

*Summary of transactions of service during the month of April, 1900.*

(*a*) Total number of deaths reported during April, 1900, 345; (*a*) total number of deaths reported during April, 1899, 170; (*a*) total number of births reported during April, 1900, 98; (*a*) total number of births reported during April, 1899, 82.

(*a*) These figures are for the district of Ponce, comprising the city proper, the playa, and the surrounding country.

Total number of vessels inspected during April, 1900, 34; total number of bills of health issued during April, 1900, 32; number of vessels in quarantine during April, 1900, 2; number of passengers whose baggage was disinfected during April, 1900, 2; number of vaccination certificates stamped during April, 1900, 4; number of vessels inspected during April, 1899, 27; number of vessels which sailed during April, 1899, 32; number of immigrants inspected during April, 1900, 12.

PONCE, P. R., *May 5, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended May 5, 1900. Also mortality statistics for the past two weeks. The number of deaths from diseases of the digestive apparatus are greater than ever before known here.

Some days ago I made a flying trip to San Juan to consult with Assistant Surgeon Lavinder in regard to several quarantine matters. One hundred and twenty-nine more emigrants left this port for Daiquiri, Cuba.

Respectfully, W. W. KING,
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service,*

*Number and causes of deaths in Ponce Jurisdiction (city, playa, and surrounding country) during two weeks ended May 5, 1900.*

*Infectious diseases.*—La grippe, 12; malarial fever, 12; tuberculosis, 11; dysentery, 7; tetanus, 2; septicæmia, 1; diseases of the digestive apparatus, 80; diseases of the respiratory system, 11; diseases of the circulatory system, 3; diseases of the nervous system, 6; other diseases (anæmia, inanition, etc.), 36. Total, 181. Births during the same period, 47.

*Report from San Juan.*

SAN JUAN, P. R., *May 14, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit monthly report of the operations of the Service at this port and the 5 subports of the island for April, 1900:

During the month there were 92 deaths and 68 births reported. The usual list of the causes of death is inclosed herewith.

Forty-three vessels were inspected, 3 of which were held, viz, the Spanish steamers *Cataluna*, which arrived on April 3, *Rabat* on April 10, and *Isla de Panay* on April 19. The two former were from Havana direct, while the latter was by way of Central and South American ports.

They were allowed to transact their business in quarantine under the supervision of our guard boat. The *Rabat* remained in port for forty-eight hours, and a guard of 2 attendants was kept on board day and night. Three nonimmune passengers from the *Cataluna* were detained at the Miraflores station to complete the five day period. Forty-four immigrants were inspected and passed during the month at this port, and one at the port of Mayaguez. The issuance of certificates of vaccination has been discontinued as the necessity therefor is no longer apparent.

The new civil governor, Hon. Charles H. Allen, arrived on the U. S. S. *Dolphin* on April 27, and was received with appropriate ceremonies.

The weather is now much warmer and the rainy season is about to begin. The health of this city and vicinity continues fair and there are no contagious diseases.